



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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Michigan's November Unemployment Rate Edges Up

Lansing – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November inched up slightly over the month by one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.1 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). The state's workforce rose in November by 21,000 as total employment advanced by 15,000, while the number of unemployed increased by 6,000.

The Michigan jobless rate in November 2015 was one and four-tenths percentage points below the state's November 2014 rate of 6.5 percent. The national jobless rate decreased by eight-tenths of a percentage point over this period. The state's November unemployment rate was one-tenth of a percentage point above the national rate. The U.S. jobless rate was unchanged from October to November at 5.0 percent.

"Michigan's jobless rate rose slightly in November primarily due to unemployed individuals entering the state's workforce," said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. "The majority of those who entered the labor force found employment."

Monthly Labor Force Trends & Highlights

- The marginal November increase in the state's jobless rate was the first monthly advance since May. In 2015, Michigan's unemployment rate declined in nine of the first 11 months.
- Michigan's labor force gain over the month matched the January increase as the largest monthly advance so far in 2015. The state's November workforce total of 4,764,000 was the highest level recorded this year. Since November 2014, Michigan's labor force edged up by 0.3 percent, less than the 0.6 percent gain nationally.
- Eleven months into the year, Michigan's 2015 year-to-date average unemployment rate was 5.4 percent. This is nearly two percentage points below the 7.3 percent 2014 annual average rate.

- November marked the fourth consecutive monthly total employment gain in the state. Total employment has risen in nine months of 2015, with an average increase of a little over 7,000 per month.
- As individuals entered Michigan's workforce over the last several months, the number of unemployed in the state has increased by around 9,000 since September. However, the 258,000 average number of unemployed in the state through November remained well below the 348,000 recorded as unemployed in 2014.

MICHIGAN
Labor Force Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

	November 2014	October 2015	November 2015	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,748	4,743	4,764	21	16
Employment	4,439	4,505	4,520	15	81
Unemployment	309	238	244	6	-65
Rate (Percent)	6.5	5.0	5.1	xxx	xxx

Detroit Metropolitan Area's November Jobless Rate Increases

The Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA's) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November rose slightly by two-tenths of a percentage point to 5.9 percent. This was the second consecutive minor monthly jobless rate hike for the metro area. However, the metro area's eleven-month 2015 average rate of 6.1 percent is far below the 8.5 percent rate recorded in 2014, and would be the lowest annual rate since 2001. In November, the Detroit MSA recorded a labor force gain of 6,000 as the number of unemployed increased by 6,000. Total employment showed little change over the month. Up until November's gain, the metro area's labor force had only risen slightly since May.

From November 2014 to November 2015, the Detroit metropolitan area's jobless rate fell by one and nine-tenths percentage points. Since November 2014, total employment rose by 22,000 or 1.2 percent in the region, which was below the statewide gain of 1.8 percent, and slightly under the 1.4 percent gain nationally. Over that period, the number of unemployed in the area fell by 38,000 or 24.2 percent. Although the area has recorded consistent minor workforce gains since July, its labor force remains 0.8 percent below the November 2014 level.

Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA
Labor Force Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

	November 2014	October 2015	November 2015	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	2,019	1,996	2,002	6	-17
Employment	1,862	1,883	1,884	1	22
Unemployment	157	113	119	6	-38
Rate (Percent)	7.8	5.7	5.9	xxx	xxx

November Payroll Jobs Up Slightly

According to the monthly survey of employers, seasonally adjusted Michigan payroll jobs edged up in November by 1,000 to 4,279,000. Construction (+3,000) led the payroll job gains, while manufacturing, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality services rose by 2,000 each over the month. Offsetting these advances were job reductions in both professional and business services (-5,000) and government (-2,000). The state's remaining major industry sectors recorded minor job changes over the month.

Industry Employment Trends and Highlights

- Michigan's monthly payroll job levels have been very stable since May. However, November's job total was 14,000 above the state's eleven-month 2015 average level of 4,265,000.
- Both manufacturing and education and health services continued an upward job trend in November. These two sectors in 2015 have been the state's most consistent growth industries, with both showing monthly job gains throughout the majority of the year.
- After dipping slightly during recent months, construction jobs rebounded modestly in November.
- The decline in government jobs in November brought its level to the second lowest count of the year. Over the year, government jobs fell by 8,000.
- From November 2014 to November 2015, payroll jobs in Michigan increased by 72,000 or 1.7 percent. The vast majority (94 percent) of job growth occurred in five of Michigan's 11 major sectors. Manufacturing, education and health services, professional and business services, construction, and leisure and hospitality services led job expansion in the state since November 2014.
- Seasonally adjusted average weekly hours and earnings of production workers in manufacturing declined over the month, but rose over the year.

(more)

MICHIGAN
Payroll Employment Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted

(Data in Thousands)

	<u>November</u> <u>2014</u>	<u>October*</u> <u>2015</u>	<u>November**</u> <u>2015</u>	<u>CHANGE***</u>	
				<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	4,207	4,278	4,279	1	72
Natural Resources & Mining	8	8	8	0	0
Construction	143	150	153	3	10
Manufacturing	585	602	605	2	20
Transportation Equipment	182	190	190	0	8
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	762	765	765	0	4
Retail Trade	463	463	462	-1	-1
Information	57	55	55	0	-2
Financial Activities	205	212	212	0	7
Professional & Business Services	629	645	640	-5	11
Education & Health Services	648	664	666	2	18
Leisure & Hospitality Services	406	413	415	2	9
Other Services	171	176	174	-1	3
Government	595	589	587	-2	-8

* Final data for October

** Preliminary data for November

*** Change calculated using unrounded data

Hours & Earnings for Production Workers

Seasonally Adjusted

Manufacturing

	<u>November</u> <u>2014</u>	<u>October</u> <u>2015</u>	<u>November</u> <u>2015</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>	
				<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Average Weekly Earnings	\$905.11	\$941.19	\$916.44	-\$24.75	\$11.33
Average Weekly Hours	43.9	44.8	44.5	-0.3	0.6

Transportation Equipment

Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,250.80	\$1,248.44	\$1,217.63	-\$30.81	-\$33.17
Average Weekly Hours	48.8	50.3	49.2	-1.1	0.4

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